

# Applicants should consider less-than-perfect jobs

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"They're supplying their skills and knowledge. As a supplier, we have to be aware of what the industry is buying."

That means not only applying for the right positions, but also being flexible about the position, Ms Bulmash said.

In the tech sector, for example, hiring full-time employees has tapered off.

Instead, the industry tends to award finite contracts tailored to specific skill sets and expertise.

This phenomenon has arisen for a couple of reasons: an uncertain economy, which compels companies to keep staff costs in check, and the changing nature of the assignments being undertaken in the workplace, Ms Bulmash said.

"(Job seekers) need to understand how the world has evolved," Ms Bulmash said.

"The rules of the game have changed significantly."

A job seeker also needs to know how his or her skills measure up in this fast-paced and competitive market and sell

them accordingly, Ms Bulmash said.

It is important to pitch yourself as the right fit for the company; that means being acquainted with the enterprise, its products and its ways of doing business, she said.

Be flexible; a contract position may not be the deal you're looking for, but it's work. And working keeps you relevant.

"We're not out of the woods yet," Ms Bulmash warned.

"If the economy is not successful ... you may see more contract hiring."

Ms Dodo also stressed that, even if an opportunity is not the end of your job search rainbow, it can be worth considering.

"Nothing's ideal," she said. "Work with what you get."

Throughout, remain upbeat, proactive and creative, she said. Use your contacts, your experience and your wits.

"It's your job search. You have to be accountable for it," Ms Dodo said.

"Make your own luck."

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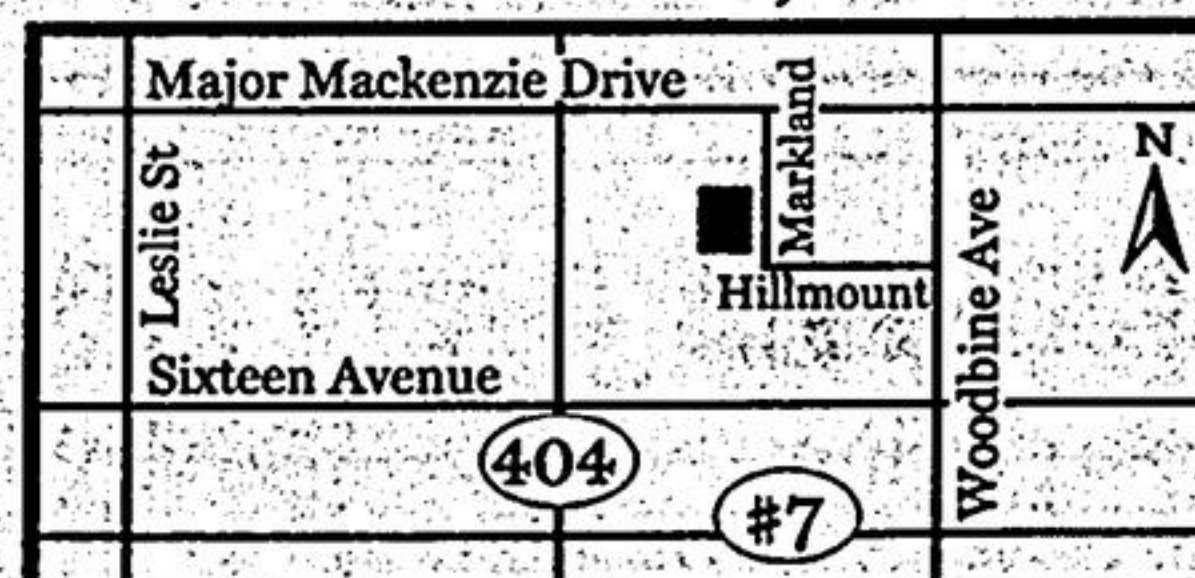
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